

## Upper School Dress Policy

### Dress Code: General Guidelines

Believing that our outward appearance is a reflection of our heart and mind, Dublin Christian Academy expects parents to exercise good taste and judgment in the dress of their children who are students at the Academy. Through our clothing and our hairstyles, we either draw attention to ourselves, or we magnify the Lord. The following dress code applies to all school functions unless otherwise specified.

As a Christian organization we want our students to reflect a Christian testimony by dressing in a way that is consistent with Biblical principles. Although there is no single style or form of clothing which is Biblical, I Timothy 2:9 teaches the principle of modesty, and Matthew 6:25-33 stresses that clothing should not be the emphasis of one's life. As an educational institution, we want to promote an appearance that reflects high standards of academic performance and the importance of education. We do however, recognize that different types of clothing are appropriate based on the occasion or activity. Therefore, the following guidelines outline the dress code for the many facets of life here at Dublin Christian Academy.

Dublin Christian Academy has chosen Lands' End (LE) and French Toast (FT) as its dress code suppliers. School dress must be purchased through LE and FT except where otherwise noted.

### Upper School Boys' Dress

#### **General Dress Guidelines:**

1. All clothing is expected to be neat, clean, and wrinkle-free.
2. All clothing must be an appropriate size for student. (No sloppy, oversized, or tight clothing.)
3. **Pants** should fit properly (not be oversized, low-riding, or tight, i.e., skinny pants).
4. **Pants** should be hemmed appropriately and should not be frayed, tight, or sagging.
5. All **shirts** must be tucked in.
6. **Jackets, coats, hats, and zippered vests** are considered outdoor wear and are **not to be worn in the classrooms or auditorium**, and should be stored in lockers.
7. **Shoes** should be worn at **all** times.
8. Cleated shoes or skates are **not** to be worn in the buildings.
9. Any **T-shirt** worn under a uniform shirt must be a plain white shirt with no printing.
10. Any clothing that promotes an anti-Christian philosophy is **not** permitted.
11. Baseball caps and other casual hats are appropriate outside the buildings or at athletic events.

The administration of Dublin Christian Academy reserves the right to determine if dress or appearance is appropriate. Parents will be notified of inappropriate dress or appearance and will be given a description of the steps necessary to fix the problem.

**School Dress:**

The following items are to be purchased from our uniform providers (*Land's End and French Toast*):

1. **Polo Shirts\*** - any solid color; short or long sleeved; DCA polos (available seasonally for purchase from the online Stag Swag Store: [store.shirtmasters.com/dublin-christian-academy](http://store.shirtmasters.com/dublin-christian-academy)).
2. **Pants** (solid color with belt loops) - khaki, gray, navy, or black
  - Dockers brand is also permissible (solid color with belt loops) - khaki, gray, navy, or black

The following are guidelines for school dress should always reflect an appropriate, academic appearance.

**Other Uniform Items:**

The following items may be purchased at any store.

1. **Oxfords Shirts\***: white, blue, or French blue
2. **Blazers**: *Solid-colored* blazers in black, navy, brown, or tan.
3. **Sweaters, cardigans, vests\***: *Solid-colored* sweaters (no “heather” fabric or hooded)
4. **Shoes**: Solid brown, black, or grey shoes
  - **No** rugged work boots, sneakers, crocs, or sandals
  - **All** shoes worn should be in good condition.
5. **Socks**: Dress socks (white athletic socks are not permissible.)
6. **Belts**:
  - A solid-color black or brown belt must be worn with **all** pants.
  - **Belts** should not have grommets, studs, or other similar decorations.

**\*Special Notes:****Shirts:**

1. All **shirt buttons** must be fastened except the top button.
2. All **shirts** must be neatly tucked inside pants.
3. **Shirt collars** should be worn as they were intended. (Oxford collars should be buttoned down, and polo collars should be worn in the traditional flat style.)
4. **Long sleeves** may not be layered underneath short sleeves for school dress.
5. When **sweaters, cardigans, or vests** are worn, a polo, oxford, or turtleneck with a visible collar must be worn underneath.
6. **Sweatshirts, sweatshirt jackets, flannel shirts, and jean jackets** are not allowed for school dress.

**Hair:**

1. Hair should be conservatively cut, evenly tapered in the back, on the sides, and above the ears.
2. Hair must be off the collar and ears.
3. Hair may come no lower than one finger's width above eyebrows.
4. Hair is to be your natural color.
5. Shaved heads (less than 1/4 inch), shelf cuts, spiked hairstyles, and any other extreme, or faddish hairstyles are **not** acceptable.
6. The use of dye, streaks, bleach, or other hair coloration is **not** permissible at any time during the school year.
7. Sideburns should be no lower than the lower opening of the ear and be neatly trimmed.
8. Boys must be clean-shaven. **No** facial hair is permitted.

**Accessories:**

1. Necklaces, earrings, bracelets, and ankle bracelets may not be worn at school or at any other school function. The only exception is medical tags.
2. Wristbands, including those worn for health purposes or to convey a message consistent with DCA's mission, are permissible.
3. Body piercing and tattoos are **not** permissible.

**PE Dress:**

1. **Shirts:** Any DCA T-shirt
2. **Pants:** Navy or black loose-fitting, athletic pants and **no** yoga-style pants.
3. **Shorts:** Navy or black knee-length shorts (optional for warmer months) may be worn
4. **Footwear:** Athletic shoes
5. **DCA sweatshirts** are optional

**Note:** All students with PE for their last hour class or leaving campus after sports may be picked up in PE clothes.

**Note:** Many Stag Swag items are available for purchase in Common Grounds or seasonally from the online Stag Swag store ([store.shirtmasters.com/dublin-christian-academy](http://store.shirtmasters.com/dublin-christian-academy)).

**Casual Dress:** Games & Dress Down Day

1. **Pants:** hemmed wind pants, athletic pants
  - **Jeans:** Must be neat, properly-fitting jeans, no rips or holes, and **not** skinny jeans.
2. **Shirts/ Sweatshirts:** DCA Stag Swag
3. **Shoes:** *Athletic shoes* (Casual attire does not include flip-flops)
4. **Special Note:** Casual dress does not include shorts or sweatpants.

***Athletic Dress: Playing Sports only***

1. **Shorts** may be worn for playing sports *only*.
2. **Shirts** must be worn at all times. (No muscle shirts)
3. **Pants**: hemmed wind pants or athletic pants may be worn.

***Concert Dress***: Vespers, Junior High & Sr. High Competition, Spring Concert

1. **Pants**: navy
2. **Shirts**: white Oxford
3. **Shoes**: black or brown dress shoes
4. **Special note**:
  - The school will provide ties.
  - Dark socks and belt should be worn.

***Semi-Formal Dress***: Awards Ceremony and Graduation

1. Sport coat/ Suit coat
2. Dress shirt (collared shirt) & Tie\*
3. Dress pants & Belt
4. Dress shoes & dress socks

***Formal Dress***: Christmas Banquet and Jr./Sr. Banquet

1. Sport coat / Suit coat / Tuxedo
2. Dress shirt (collared shirt) & Tie\*
3. Dress pants & Belt
4. Dress shoes & dress socks

***\*Special Note:***

When wearing a **tie** for **formal** & **semi-formal** occasions, the top shirt button should be buttoned and the tie pulled up.

***Senior Graduation Dress\**** (Graduation and Baccalaureate Sunday)

1. Dark dress pants
2. Dark dress shoes
3. Dark socks
4. Dark tie
5. White shirt
6. Graduation robes: The robes that are used for graduation are rented and they need to have some ironing done to make them presentable. Care should be taken not to use too hot an iron as they scorch fairly easily, but they **do** need to be ironed.
7. **Special Note**: *This dress attire is also for Flag Bearers and Junior Marshal*

### ***Dress Checks:***

In addition to specific dress checks for banquets or sports and ministry teams, unannounced school dress checks will be scheduled several times throughout the school year. We do not desire to embarrass or humiliate the student and will do everything possible to be discreet in handling an infraction.

## **Upper School Girls' Dress**

### ***General Dress Guidelines:***

1. All clothing is expected to be neat, clean, and wrinkle-free.
2. All clothing must be an appropriate size for the student. (No sloppy, oversized, or tight)
  - Clothing should be modest. Clothing that is revealing either because of fabric, cut, or tightness is unacceptable.
  - Clothing should be loose enough to conceal undergarment lines
3. ***Pants*** should fit properly (not be oversized, low-riding, or tight, i.e. skinny pants).
4. ***Pants*** should be hemmed appropriately and should not be frayed, tight, or sagging.
5. All ***shirts*** must be tucked in.
  - Halter tops or strapless tops and dresses are ***not*** appropriate student attire for any occasion, even if worn with another shirt.
  - Necklines should be no lower than four fingers' width below the collarbone. No cleavage should be visible.
  - Tops may not be low cut and must be worn so as to prevent a bare midriff under all circumstances. Midriffs are to be covered at all times.
  - All tops are to have sleeves.
  - A camisole should be worn under lightweight or light colored shirts.
6. ***Skirts*** and ***dresses*** should come to the bottom of the knee in the front and back when worn at the natural waistline when sitting and standing.
  - ***Slits*** in skirts and dresses may not go above the knee.
  - ***Slips*** should be worn under lightweight or light colored skirts or dresses.
7. ***Shoes*** should be worn at ***all*** times.
8. ***Jackets, coats, hats, and zippered vests*** are considered outdoor wear and are ***not to be worn in the classrooms or auditorium***, and should be stored in lockers.
9. Cleated shoes and skates should ***not*** be worn in the buildings.
10. Any ***T-shirt*** worn under a uniform shirt must be a plain white shirt/ tank top with no printing.
11. Any clothing that promotes an anti-Christian philosophy is ***not*** permitted.
12. Baseball caps and other casual hats are appropriate outside the buildings or athletic events.

The administration of Dublin Christian Academy reserves the right to determine if dress or appearance is appropriate. Parents will be notified of inappropriate dress or appearance and will be given a description of the steps necessary to fix the problem.

**School Dress:**

The following items are to be purchased from our uniform providers:

1. **Polo Shirts\*** - any solid color; short or long sleeved; DCA polos (available seasonally for purchase from the online Stag Swag Store: [store.shirtmasters.com/dublin-christian-academy](http://store.shirtmasters.com/dublin-christian-academy)).
2. **Pants** (solid color with belt loops) - khaki, gray, navy, or black
3. **Oxford Shirts\*** - white, blue, or French blue
4. **Skirts**

**Other Uniform Items:**

The following items may be purchased at any store.

1. **Blazers:** Solid-colored blazers in black, navy, brown, and tan
2. **Sweaters, cardigans, vests\*:** Solid-colored (no "heather" fabric, open knit or hooded)
3. **Shoes:** Solid brown, black, or grey shoes (**no** sneaker or slipper styles).
  - Brown, black, or grey **sandals** (*must have a back*)
  - Brown, black, or grey **dress boots** are permitted.
  - Heels over 2" are not permissible for school.
  - All shoes worn should be in good condition.
  - Crocs, sneakers, and flip-flops are **not** allowed.
4. **Socks:** Socks, tights, or leggings must coordinate with the outfit. (white athletic socks are **not** allowed.)
5. **Belts:**
  - A solid-color black or brown belt must be worn with all skirts or pants having belt loops.
  - Belts should **not** have grommets, studs, or other similar decorations.

**\*Special Notes:****Shirts:**

1. All **shirt buttons** must be fastened except the top button.
2. All **shirts** must be neatly tucked in.
3. **Long sleeves** may not be layered underneath short sleeves for school dress.
4. When **sweaters, cardigans, or vests** are worn, a polo, oxford, or turtleneck with a visible collar must be worn underneath.
5. **Shirt collars** should be worn as they were intended. (Oxford collars should be buttoned down, and polo collars should be worn in the traditional flat style.)
6. **Sweatshirts, sweatshirt jackets, flannel shirts, and jean jackets** are **not** allowed for school dress.

**Hair:**

1. Hairstyles should be neat, appear natural in color, and cut in a feminine style.
2. Masculine, extreme, or faddish hairstyles are not permissible for school.
3. Basic highlighting is allowed, but no extreme or unnatural hair coloring.

**Jewelry and Makeup**

1. Earrings may **only** be worn in the lower lobe with a maximum of two earrings per ear.
2. If worn, makeup, nail polish, or jewelry should be neat, modest, and appropriate so that it does not draw attention to itself. (Makeup must reflect a “natural” look.)
3. Other types of body piercing or temporary and permanent tattoos are not permissible for school.

**PE Dress:**

1. **Shirts:** Any DCA T-shirt
2. **Pants:** Navy or black loose-fitting athletic pants and **no** yoga-style pants.
3. **Shorts:** Navy or black knee-length shorts (optional for warmer months) must be checked by a member of the Student Life Council.
4. **Footwear:** Athletic shoes
5. **DCA sweatshirts** are optional

**Note:** All students with PE for their last hour class or leaving campus after sports may be picked up in PE clothes.

**Note:** Many Stag Swag items are available for purchase in Common Grounds or seasonally from the online Stag Swag store ([store.shirtmasters.com/dublin-christian-academy](http://store.shirtmasters.com/dublin-christian-academy)).

**Casual Dress: Games & Dress Down Day**

1. **Pants:** Hemmed wind pants, athletic pants (**loose-fitting**)
  - Capri's in a woven fabric (below the knee) are allowed.
  - **Jeans:** must be neat, properly-fitting jeans, no rips or holes, and **not** skinny jeans or slim stretch
2. **Shirts/ Sweatshirts:** DCA Stag Swag
3. **Shoes:** Athletic shoes (Casual dress does not include flip flops.)
4. **Special Note:** Casual dress does not include shorts or sweatpants.

**Athletic Dress: Playing Sports Only**

1. **Pants:** Loose fitting jeans, wind pants, or hemmed wind pants may be worn.
2. **Shorts\*:** Knee-length shorts (touching the top of the knee) may be worn for organized sports only and must be checked by a member of the Student Life Council.
3. **Shirts:** Athletic T-shirt (with sleeves)

**\*Special Note:** On campus, shorts should come to the top of the knee. We know it is difficult to find ladies' styles that meet this criteria, so you may need to purchase men's athletic shorts. For sports practices we will allow shorts to come a little higher\*, but we ask that you wear athletic pants to/from practice.

For practices or other volleyball events that are held on campus, students should wear shorts to the top of the knee.

**Concert Dress:** Vespers, Junior High & Sr. High Competition, Spring Concert

1. **Skirts:** navy
2. **Shirts:** white Oxford
3. **Shoes:** black or brown dress shoes
4. **Special note:** The school will provide scarves

**Semi-Formal Dress:** Awards Ceremony and Academy Graduation

1. Dresses or skirts and tops, dressier than uniform clothing, in modest and conservative styles. For ladies, all styles must come below the knee (the hem is considered the fabric of solid fabric).
2. No denim, T-shirts, or other casual clothing.
3. Dress shoes (nicer than school shoes) are appropriate.

**Formal Dress:** Christmas Banquet and Jr./Sr. Banquet\*

1. Dressy skirt and top, or dress
2. Dressy shoes
3. Formal attire **does not** include denim (skirts, shirts or jackets).
4. **Special Note:** For Junior-Senior banquet in May, a formal dress is recommended.

**General Formal Dress Guidelines:**

1. Many styles of dress will need to be worn with a jacket, shrug, or attached shawl.
2. Necklines should be no lower than 4 fingers from the collar bone. The highest neckline of a solid fabric is considered to be the neckline of the dress.
3. The back of the dress should not be cut below the bottom of the shoulder blades.
4. The outer edge of the strap or sleeve must come to the outer edge of the collarbone (Halter styles are not permitted).
5. Dress length must be below the knee. The shortest hem of a solid fabric is considered to be the length of the dress.
6. Dress shoes must be worn.
7. Alteration of formal garments is the responsibility of the girl and her family.
8. A dress check is required of all formal dresses.\*

**Note:** It is at the discretion of the faculty/staff member in charge of dress check to require alterations or additions such as wider straps, a shrug, jacket or shawl. Please have your dress checked in plenty of time to make changes, if necessary.

**Senior Graduation Dress** (Graduation and Baccalaureate Sunday)

1. White or off-white dress/skirt & top
2. White or off white dress shoes or sandals
3. Graduation robes: The robes that are used for graduation are rented and they need to have some ironing done to make them presentable. Care should be taken not to use too hot an iron as they scorch fairly easily, but they **do** need to be ironed.

**Dress Checks:**

In addition to specific dress checks for banquets or sports and ministry teams, unannounced school dress checks will be scheduled several times throughout the school year. Infractions will be handled as discreetly as possible.

**Ordering Information:**

Choose from these DCA options offering items that meet our requirements.

LAND'S END

[www.landsend.com](http://www.landsend.com)

School Preferred Number: 9001-1955-3

FRENCH TOAST

[www.frenchtoast.com](http://www.frenchtoast.com)

School Source Code: QS46MV

**To order online:** Go to [www.dublinchristian.org/student-life](http://www.dublinchristian.org/student-life). On the bottom, choose to go to the DCA uniform collection from Land's End or French Toast. This will direct you to the DCA store on each site. **ONLY** the items in the DCA store are approved uniform dress. These will be updated annually.

Lands' End has an excellent replacement policy, including typically replacing at no cost a uniform that is, for example, torn, stained, or faded.

DCA families can sign up for Lands' End's email and make purchases when Lands' End offers discounts on uniforms.

STAG SWAG SHOP

[store.shirtmasters.com/dublin-christian-academy](http://store.shirtmasters.com/dublin-christian-academy)

**Note:** Stag Swag Polos allowed as school dress will be marked on the Stag Swag site.  
The Online Stag Swag Shop is only available for purchase seasonally.

**Uniform Swap Shop**

Academy families may exchange clothing with one another or purchase used uniform items at significantly reduced prices at the Uniform Swap Shop. The Uniform Swap Shop is located in Common Grounds. Uniform tops, skirts, and pants in clean usable condition may be dropped off in Common Grounds for Swap Shop credit at any time. If you would like to receive credit for your donations, please make sure the bag is clearly marked with your name. You may use your swap shop credit to purchase other uniform items at any time during the year.